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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/170,656	10/14/1998	SURESH JEYACHANDRAN	35.C13009	7028

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EXAMINER

LEE, TOMMY D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2624

DATE MAILED: 10/01/2002

11

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/170,656

Applicant(s)

JEYACHANDRAN ET AL.

Examiner

Thomas D. Lee

Art Unit

2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 June 2001.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21, 23, 24, 27-30, 32, 33 and 36-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21, 23, 24, 27-30, 32, 33 and 36-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This Office action is responsive to applicant's AMENDMENT AND PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME, filed June 21, 2002. Claims 1-21, 23, 24, 27-30, 32, 33 and 36-38 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

3. Claims 1-21, 23, 24, 27-30, 32, 33 and 36-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,291,302 (Gordon et al.).

Regarding claims 1-19, Gordon et al. disclose an information processing apparatus comprising identification name designation means for designating an identification name (including at least one of an information name, an information transmitter name, and an information sender name) related to object information (originating machine's identification, destination machine's telephone number stored, read column 7, lines 4-13); process designation means for designating a process (including at least one of reception, of transmission, and of printing) for said object information (fax message delivered to destination machine, read column 7, lines 15-20); setup means for setting up a command (including a command for issuing a notification that said designated process has been completed; or a command for performing a further process, such as printing or holding said object information, related to said object information) to be executed ("delivery record" created upon successful delivery and sent

back to the originating machine as a fax document, read column 9, lines 1-15); and execution means for executing the command set up by said setup means when the process designated by said process designation means is performed on the object information related to the identification name designated by said identification name designation means ("transaction file" which includes delivery record is sent back to originating machine as a fax document, read column 9, lines 1-15). The information processing apparatus further comprises time limit setup means for setting a time limit; inhibition means for inhibiting said execution means for executing a command when the time limit set by said time limit setup means has expired (upon failure to deliver fax message within a time limit, a "retry record" is transmitted back to originator (column 10, lines 16-35), as opposed to the above-mentioned delivery record); status designation means for designating the status of said apparatus; and permission means for permitting said execution means to execute a command when the status designated by said status designation means is established (when the status of the apparatus allows for successful reception of fax message, a delivery record is created, as mentioned above); and management means for deleting a command set by said setup means when the time limit set by said time limit setup means has expired (message and report retransmitted back to originator, then erased, read column 10, lines 9-13). Accordingly, apparatus claims 1-9, as well as corresponding method claims 10-18, are rejected. As for a storage medium which stores a program for performing the method steps as recited in claim 19, Gordon et al. provide software control as disclosed at column 19, beginning from line 22.

Regarding claims 20-38, Gordon et al. disclose an information processing apparatus comprising identification name designation means for designating an identification name related to a first process, a performance of which is employed as an execution condition for a second process to be performed (user has option of selecting "failed-connection message disposition" choice, read column 10, lines 3-5); setup means for setting up, together with the identification name related to the first process, the second process that is to be performed when the first process related to the identification name designated by said identification name designation means has been performed (menu of disposition options presented to user, read column 10, lines 5-8); determination means for determining whether the first process related to the identification name designated by said identification name designation means has been performed (failure in delivery of message to a destination detected, read column 9, lines 16-35); and execution means for performing, when the performance of the first process is determined by said determination means, the second process that is set up with the identification name related to the first process (disposition option performed in accordance with selection by user, read column 10, lines 9-17). The information processing apparatus further comprises time period setup means for setting an effective time period; and inhibition means for inhibiting said execution means from executing a command at a time other than the time period set by said time period setup means (delivery of message not performed if user does not respond to choice within a time limit or after a suitable delay, read column 10, lines 9-17). Said designation means designates a status during which a specific process is to be performed (status being a

failure in delivery of a message, and a specific process being a process which is selected by a user, as mentioned above). At least one of reception, of the transmission, and of the printing can be designated as the specific process (message may be resent to original destination or forwarded to another destination, read column 10, lines 14-17). At least one of a user name, of an apparatus, and of a process name can be designated as an attribute for the specific process (above-mentioned original destination and another destination are attributes for the disposition process). The setup means is capable of setting, as the process to be executed, at least one of a notification, of a printing, and of a holding process (message may be retransmitted back to originator with a report, read column 10, lines 9-11). The information processing apparatus is capable of executing, at least one of reading and printing of information (reports may be accumulated and delivered as a fax document, read column 10, lines 18-35). Accordingly, apparatus claims 20, 21, 23, 24, 27 and 28, as well as corresponding method claims 29, 30, 32, 33, 36 and 37, are rejected. As for a storage medium which stores a program for performing the method steps as recited in claim 38, Gordon et al. provide software control as disclosed at column 19, beginning from line 22.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed in response to the prior rejection of claims 1-38 as set forth in the Office action dated December 21, 2001, at pages 3-6 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant asserts that Gordon et al. do not teach "executing the command set up by said setup means (Claim 1) or in the setup step (Claims 10 and 19) when the

process designated by said process designation means (Claim 1) or in said process designation step (Claims 10 and 19) is performed on the object information related to the identification name designated by said identification name designation means (Claim 1) or in said identification name designation step (Claims 10 and 19)" (pages 12 and 13 of AMENDMENT). These limitations, contrary to applicant's assertion, are taught by Gordon et al. ("transaction file" which includes delivery record is sent back to originating machine as a fax document, when a fax message related to the originating machine's identification and destination machine's telephone number is delivered to a destination machine; read column 9, lines 1-15).

Applicant further asserts that Gordon et al. do not teach "performing, when the performance of the first process is determined by said determination means (Claim 20) or in said determination step (Claims 29 and 38), the second process that is set up with the identification name related to the first process" (pages 12 and 13 of AMENDMENT). These limitations, contrary to applicant's assertion, are taught by Gordon et al. (disposition option performed in accordance with selection by user, in response to failure in delivery of message to a destination detected, read column 10, lines 9-17).

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas D. Lee whose telephone number is (703) 305-4870. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (7:30-5:00), alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on (703) 308-7452. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9314 for regular communications and (703) 872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.


Thomas D. Lee
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2624

tdl
September 27, 2002